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An Analytical

INQUIRY

INTO THE

SPECIFICK PROPERTY

OF

MERCURY,

Relating to the CURE of

VENEREAL DISEASES,

When well apply'd and ſkilfully managed.

Wherein is Explained,

I. The Nature, Action, Effects, Quantity, and Choice of Preparations.

II. The neceſſary Cautions before the Uſe of the Remedy, and after it.

III. The true Generation and Nature of the *Virus*.

IV. The Variety of its Symptoms in different Climates: In Particular, the Reaſon, why moſt Part of the *Spaniards* are born with the Pox, or the King's-Evil; and why this Diſtemper rages more in *London*, than in other Parts of *Europe*.

V. The ill Conſequences of a bad Practice; and, what Method is thought beſt for a thorough Cure.

VI. An Anſwer is given to ſeveral Objections, confirm'd by Experience of Cures perform'd in *London*, in the Preſence of Sir *Hans Sloane*, Dr. *Hollings*, Dr. *Stuart*, &c.

VII. Dr. *Chicanneau*'s Method of Curing this Diſtemper without Saliyation is vindicated.

By VINCENT BRESTE, *Surgeon, and Cupper to His Royal Highneſs* Frederick *Prince of* Wales, *in Panton ſtreet.*

LONDON: Printed and Sold by *J. Nourſe*, at the *Lamb* without *Temple-Bar*, *J. Stagg*, in *Weſtminſter Hall*, *J. Brindely*, in *New Bond-ſtreet*, and *J. Millan*, the Corner of *Buckingham-Court*, and at the *Horſe Guards*. 1732.

TO [illegible] BURY

To Dr. Chicanneau, Chancellor, Professor in Physick, Demonstrator of Anatomy and Botany, at the University of Montpellier; Counsellor and First Physician to the Most Christian King.

SIR,

AS I had the Happiness to make a singular Advantage of your Knowledge in Physick, and in Particular in the Method of Curing the Venereal Disease without Salivation; I think myself obliged to present the First Fruits of the good Success that I had there, by such your excellent Method, as an Homage due to your deserving Merit.

I hope, Sir, that you won't take it ill, that I have compos'd this small Treatise in the Language of the Country where I am settled, which, it may be, is unknown to you. But I thought you would not be displeas'd to hear of the Publishing a Method in a foreign Country, the Origin whereof came from the Source of your deep Learning and Experience of Practice, which you have so freely and so publickly demonstrated. And as the Sciences in all Countries are explained in all Sorts of Languages, in order to spread the Fame of so learned a Man, it cannot be thought amiss to publish your Notions in English. This is what I now venture to do, Sir, having always conformed myself to the Principles that you have so successfully inspir'd into, and afterwards publickly demonstrated to a great Number of Scholars in Physick and Surgery, who daily came from all

To Dr. Chicanneau, *Chancellor, Profeſſor in Phyſick, Demonſtrator of Anatomy and Botany, at the Univerſity of* Montpellier; *Counſellor and Firſt Phyſician to the Moſt Chriſtian King.*

SIR,

AS I had the Happineſs to make a ſingular Advantage of your vaſt Knowledge in Phyſick, and in Particular in the Method of Curing the *Venereal Diſeaſe* without Salivation; I think myſelf obliged to preſent the Firſt Fruits of the good Succeſs that I had here, by ſuch your excellent Method, as an Homage due to your deſerving Merit.

I hope, Sir, that you won't take it ill, that I have compos'd this ſmall Treatiſe in the Language of the Country where I am ſettled, which, it may be, is unknown to you. But I thought you could not be diſpleas'd to hear of the Publiſhing a Method in a foreign Country, the Origin whereof came from the Source of your deep Learning and Experience of Practice, which you have ſo freely and ſo publickly demonſtrated. And as the Sciences in all Countries are explained in all Sorts of Languages, in order to ſpread the Fame of ſo learned a Man, it cannot be thought amiſs to publiſh your Notions in *Engliſh*. This is what I now venture to do, Sir, having always conformed myſelf to the Principles that you have ſo ſucceſsfully inquir'd into, and afterwards publickly demonſtrated to a great Number of Scholars in Phyſick and Surgery, who daily came from all

Parts of *Europe* to improve themſelves in the Arts and Sciences, that overflow from your flouriſhing Univerſity.

It is, Sir, in that famous Univerſity, where you have ſhewn your wonderful Eloquence, and your profound Skill in the publick Demonſtrations, as well in Anatomy, as in Botany; your ſpecial Care to form the Phyſician and Surgeon, in the Principles of a Practice, ſo univerſally approved by the Learned.

It is moreover there, where your Charity has been admired in haſtning to *Marſeilles*, and other Places, to help the vaſt Number of People afflicted with the Plague; and that Chriſtian Humanity, which made you always ſerve carefully the Poor as well as the Rich. All theſe eminent Qualities and rare Vertues, ſo well known in your Perſon, have exalted you to be the Firſt Phyſician of one of the Greateſt Monarch's in *Europe*, an Employment certainly due to your great Merit: Which, had it been leſs, could not have eaſed the Grief of your Citizens, ſo much concerned at your Loſs.

In ſo high a Truſt, Sir, that you may happily injoy the juſt Choice that has been made of your eminent Perſon, and as long as you wiſh, [redacted] are the ſincere and earneſt Wiſhes of,

SIR,

Your Faithful, Humble

And Obedient Servant,

VINCENT DRESI.

A Meſſre De Chicanneau, Chancelier et Profeſſeur en Medecine, Demonſtracteur d'Anatomie et de Botanie de l'Univerſité de Montpellier, Conſeiller, et premier Medecin de ſa Majeſte tres Chretienne.

MONSIEUR,

COMME j'ay eu Le bonheur de profiter de Vos Lumieres ſur la meilleure Methode, qui ait encore paru juſqu'a preſent, pour la gueriſon des Maladies Veneriennes ſans Salivation; Je me tens, Monſieur, obligé de Vous offrir les premiſſes du progres, que j'ay fait, ici par cette excellente maniere, comme un Homage du' a Vos Soins et a Voſtre Merite. J'eſpere, Monſieur, que Vous ne trouverez pas mauvais, ſi Je parle dans l'expoſé le Langage du pais ou Je demeure, et qui Vous eſt peut etre inconnu. J'ay cru ne Vous pas faire deplaiſir, en publiant dans un Pais etranger au Votre, une Methode, dont l'origine du Sujet derive de la Source des Experiances de Pratiques que Vous avez ſi librement enſeigne.

Comme la Science en tous Pais, ſ'explique en toutes ſortes de Langages; il ſuffit, pour faire parler un Scavant une Langue qui lui eſt inconnue, d'exprimer bien ſa penſee. C'eſt ce que j'ay fait, Monſieur, en conformant les Principes, que je poſe, a ceux, que Vous avez demontré publiquement, avec des Soins et des Recherches infinies, a un nombre tres conſiderable d'Etudians, tant en medecine qu'en Chi-

rurgie, les quels accourent de toutes parts pour [illegible] dans cette de Voſtre Celebre Univerſité.

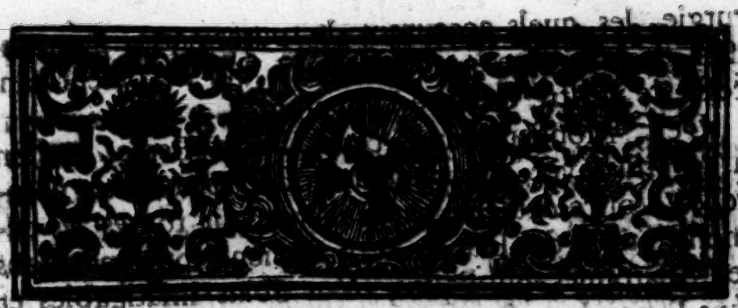
C'eſt, Monſieur, dans cette illuſtre Ecole, ou l'on a admiré Avec etonnement Voſtre Eloquence admirable, Voſtre Attache particuliere pour toutes les demonſtrations des Plantes, Voſtre Science profonde dans les Anatomies publiques, Vos Soins infatigables et ſans Exemple a former et le Medecin et le Chirurgien, par des principes d' une Pratique univerſellement approvee de tous les Scavants. C'eſt encore la, ou l'on a admiré Voſtre Charité vigilante, et ſans Egale, a ſecourir les habitans de *Marſeille*, et les peuples voiſins, affligez du fleau de la Peſte, et cette Humanité Chretienne envers les Pauvres, qui Vous les a fait regarder auſſi favorablement que les Riches. Ce ſont, Monſieur, toutes ces Eminentes Qualites, que tout le Monde connoit en Vous, et les rares Vertus, qui Vous ont elevé a la Charge de premier Medecin d'un des plus grands monarques de l'Europe: Employ veritablement dû a Voſtre Merite; et qui ne pouvoit etre moindre, a fin de calmer les gemiſſemens ſinceres et de conſoler Vos chers Concitoiens affligez de Voſtre depart.

Que le Ciel, Monſieur, Vous faſſe jouir, auſſi long tems, que Vous le deſirez, du juſte choix que l'on a fait de Voſtre illuſtre Perſonne, et que le [illegible] et Chretiennes Vertus, Ce Sont les Vœux ſinceres, que fait tres reſpectueuſement,

Monſieur,

Voſtre tres, &c.

THE



THE PREFACE.

THESE few Pages, that I present to the Readers, are only the short Idea of a Remedy, that bears the just Title by the Physicians and Surgeons, to be the best Specifick for the Cure of the most inveterate Venereal Disease. *But the necessary Cautions in the Management of it have been of late so much neglected by our Practitioners, that it begins to lose its Credit. It is for that Reason, that I thought it might be acceptable to them, as well as to the Publick, to communicate the Observations, which I have made of it, during my stay seven Years at* Montpellier *and* Paris, *and for these eighteen Years past in my practice in this famous City of* London. *I will be bold to say, that the extraordinary Cures, that I saw done in foreign Countries by it, and those that I have performed myself here, would pass for Wonders, if they had been done by some of our eminent Surgeons: but being a Foreigner, and having no manner of recommendation of Persons of Distinction, I am looked upon as a turbulent Pretender to Miracles, where there is nothing in it.*

BUT if the producing of Proofs will be a sufficient Warrant to convince the Publick of the reality of Facts,

I ſhall be always ready to produce thoſe, that I mention in this ſmall Treatiſe.

AND poſſibly I may have a future Opportunity to give the Publick all the Obſervations of my Practice; which I hope will not be of little Uſe for the young Practitioners: and in the mean while I deſire the Readers to take in good Part this ſmall Eſſay. And if the Oppoſers of my method of curing without Salivation, will not be convinced by credible Teſtimonies, and by producing of Facts, I am ready at any time, when they will be willing to put into my Care, two Patients, who both have the Symptoms of the moſt inveterate Pox, upon the Depoſiting five hundred Guineas to be forfeited to me, as a Reward for ſhewing and diſcovering publickly my Skill for curing by the aforeſaid Means; I ſhall be very willing to ſhew in the Preſence of the moſt eminent Phyſicians, with the Grace of God, that one of the Patients ſhall be cured, at my own expence, thoroughly well without Salivation, and the other as well by the Salivation: If not, I deſire neither Money nor Charges from the Patients.

I hope the courteous Reader will excuſe the improprieties of Expreſſion, as being a Foreigner: As alſo ſome of another Nature, which may be incident to one, who has learned his Skill by Obſervations and Practice, and not by arguing and writing Books.

AN

AN

Analytical INQUIRY

Into the SPECIFICK

Propriety of MERCURY, &c.

BEFORE the Specifick quality of *Mercury* can be explained, it is thought proper to say something of its Nature, to determine the choice of its Preparations, to examine its Actions, and afterwards to add some necessary Circumstances in applying it, according to the Rules of the best Practice.

AS to its Nature, it is a subtil spherique Body: And, tho' divided into imperceptible Particles, yet it keeps its spherique Figure.

ITS Preparations are form'd by *Chymistry*, and by *Galenical* mixtures; of which there are as many Sorts, as there are notions of its Vertue amongst the

Practitioners. The beſt of its Preparations for the herein intended Cure, is the diviſion of its Body into imperceptible Particles, by the means of the Ingredients and Ointment commonly imployed for that purpoſe.

As to its Actions; the Ointment ſo prepared, and applyed by the way of Unctions on the Skin, it introduces it ſelf all over the Maſs of Blood, and by the help of ſeveral circulated and repeated motions of its globulous Particles, it ſhakes and breaks all the Acids of the *Virus* that it meets with, loads itſelf therewith, and carries it off by Excretions and Evacuations; which is what the beſt Phyſicians and Surgeons agree to.

But there are ſeveral circumſtances required for the aboveſaid Purpoſe. Firſt, the Mercury muſt be well extinguiſhed and mixed. Secondly, the quantity allowed, which is from one Ounce to two, muſt be prudently preſcribed and divided according to the Degree of the Infection, the Strength of the Patient, and the Method intended for the Cure, whether without Salivation, or by Salivation. Thirdly, the Patient muſt be firſt prepared in ſuch a manner, that his Body may receive the full quantity of Mercury, to prevent thereby the dangerous Symptoms that commonly attend the Salivation, by the neglect of that caution. The Produce of the Earth ſhews us the neceſſity of that Principle: for if the Ground is not well tilled, according to the ſubſtance of its Body, the ſeaſon of the Weather, and the nature of the Climate, before the Corn is ſown, one cannot expect but a very indifferent Crop. Equally, the Body of the Patient muſt be carefully prepared, before the uſe of Mercury; in the neglect whereof, nothing can be expected but ill conſequences. Fourthly, as

the Modification, Determination and Evacuation has a vaſt extent, conſidering the Caſes that are preſcribed in Phyſick, and that the explanation of particulars requires a whole Treatiſe; I ſhall content my ſelf to recommend the application of it to the faithful care of Practitioners; and only explain to the Readers the Evacuations, abſolutely neceſſary for the thorough Cure of a confirm'd Pox; which is Salivation by Unctions, and the determination of the Mercury by the aboveſaid Unctions, by Sweating and Urine.

After a due and methodical preparation of the Patient is performed, and the quantity of the Mercury requiſite is applyed, then the Evacuations muſt be regular and conditional, either by the Practitioners that follow the method of curing without Salivation, or by them that follow that of Salivation. And to ſhew the neceſſity of theſe Rules, it is obſerved in Practiſe.

Firſt, That if the Salivation riſes plentifully three or four Days after the firſt Unction, the Cure will miſcarry.

Secondly, If Gripes and Looſeneſs attend the Patient, and continue for ſix or eight Days, the Patient dies, or at leaſt the Cure miſcarries.

Thirdly, If in the Salivation, Convulſion Fits, Light-headedneſs, Delirium, and cold Sweats, are not immediately ſtopped, the Patient is ſoon delivered out of all Miſery.

Fourthly, If in the Salivation, the Evacuation by Spitting is not regular, from three Pints to four, for

every twenty-four Hours, during three Weeks or a Month, the Cure miſcarries.

Fifthly, If in the intended Salivation, the full quantity of Mercury is given inwardly or outwardly, and then a ſmall looſeneſs comes upon the Body, which hinders the Evacuation of Spitting, the Cure miſcarries, and the Patient is in danger of his Life; or at leaſt his Body is torn and racked by the Mercury, which jointly with the *Virus*, cauſes ſome other dangerous Symptoms, till the Patient undergoes a better Courſe of Phyſick.

ALL the abovementioned Symptoms proceed for the moſt part, from the neglect of preparing the Patient, and not following the other Rules already explain'd; as I have remarked on ſeveral Patients, tho' under the care of the moſt eminent Surgeons in *London*.

AFTER what I have advanced before, as a true Principle of the moſt approved Practiſe, it will be very eaſy to explain theſe laſt Phænomena. For ſince the Particles of the Mercury load themſelves with the Acids of the *Virus*, as a Spunge keeps in it the globulous drops of the Water, when expoſed in the Rain; in like manner, the Particles of the Mercury hold ſo faſt that of the *Virus*, that they become but one Body, tho' two different Subſtances; and cannot be expelled out of the Blood, without a large Evacuation by Sweating and Urine, or a repeated Salivation; in neglect whereof, nothing but bad conſequences can be expected. As I have obſerved three Years ago on a Nobleman's Gentleman of St. *James*'s Houſe, who was at the point of Death, by the vaſt quantity of Mercury he had taken inwardly and outwardly, almoſt every other Day, for near eight Weeks: his Body was ſo full of it, that he was ready to burſt: and when he had been under my care three

Weeks

Weeks, he was ſo well recovered, that he ſet out for foreign Countries to atend his Maſter.

Such Practitioners as think to cure that Diſtemper, tho' in an high degree of infection, by their Pills, or other inward preparations of Mercury, without confinement of Diet, are, according to the opinion of the moſt ſkilfull Surgeons, in a great Error. For a few Years after ſuch Cure, the Symptoms appear worſe than before, as it will appear hereafter. For all theſe kinds of Specificks, only break the Points of the exalted Salt of the *Virus*, and give another mode and determination of Motion to that of the *Virus*; ſo as by its long habit in the Maſs of Blood to corrupt inſenſibly the whole Subſtance, and in particular the Balſamick Particles, that are appropriated for the uſe of Generation: and then ſuch Fathers and Mothers have the Misfortune to communicate the Infection to one another, and to their Children: or ſometimes the *Virus* being wrapt up in the ſulphurous particles of the Blood for ſome time, afterwards it appears in other forms on the Children; as the Evil, Rickets, Scurvy, Rheumatiſm, Fiſtulas and Scabbs; and even the Gout too; but of a Nature ſo different from the ordinary ones, that nothing can eaſe or cure thoſe Innocents, but the remedy appropriated to cure the Grand Pox. By the number of the aboveſaid Symptoms, it will be very eaſy to judge how many Families there are afflicted in this populous City.

These Principles being grounded upon ſolid Reaſons, and confirmed by daily Experience, it will not be a difficult Matter to reſolve the Queſtion to the Curious, when they ask the reaſon why moſt part of the *Spaniards* and *Portugueze* have in their Blood the Pox or the Evil, more than the *Engliſh* and *French*;

French; and yet why the Rickets, Scurvy, Rheumatism, Rash, old Sores, Scabs, Fistula, Gout and Pox, rage more in *England* than any other part of Europe.

In answer to these Questions, I say, First, that all judicious Travellers agree, that most part of the Practitioners there, are proud, conceited, ignorant Persons, that know not the right method of thoroughly curing that Distemper. Secondly, the Climate being there exceeding hot, and the Pores of the Skin more open, give occasion to the most subtile Particles of the *Virus* to discharge themselves through it, by insensible Perspiration: and it is that natural Evacuation, that prevents so commonly the Symptoms of the Pox; but in the mean time thickish and earthly Particles of the *Virus* remaining in the sulphurous ones of the Blood, by their long habit in the said Mass, insensibly alter and infect the Seed, sooner than the other Fluids, because the Generation of their first Being came from it; *viz.* by the former mixture of several sorts of Seeds from Men, into the Womb of one Woman, which being of a different Nature, cause a Fermentation in it, and produce a sharp *Ferment*, commonly call'd *Venerial Virus*; and as the Figure of the Seed, and that of the *Virus*, have the most proportion to one another, by consequence, the substance of the Seed is generally infected first: Therefore it is, that the most part of their Children are born with the Evil, or some times with the Pox.

The first Reason why the abovementioned Distempers rage more in *England*, than in any other parts of *Europe*, is, because Quacks are more tolerated in *London*, than they are in any other part of *Europe*. For the Privileges granted by the foreign Sovereigns to the body of Physicians and Surgeons,

geons, in their Kingdoms, are ſeverely and regularly maintained for the better preſervation of their Subjects. The Second reaſon is, that this Climate is many degrees colder than the above-mentioned Countries, and the Air thicker; and by conſequence, the Perſpiration through the Pores of the Skin is much leſs: Which is the occaſion why the *Virus* fixes it ſelf in ſeveral parts of the Body. The Third reaſon is, the irregular way of Living, which cauſes an ill digeſtion of the Aliments: from it proceeds a ſoweriſh and crude Chylus, that being mixed with lthe Subſtance of the Blood, alters its Balſamick quality, and increaſes the heterogeneous Salt of its Maſs.

From theſe ſolid Reaſons it may be eaſily concluded, why thoſe Diſtempers rage more here, than in the above-mentioned Countries. As to the variety of Symptoms of the *Virus* by different ſorts of Forms, we can impute it to nothing but a different nature of Figure of its *virulent* Salt, which it hath received in the Fermentation along with the other Heterogeneous ones, that meet in the Blood, the different conſtitutions of Tempers, the degrees of the Infection, and the diſpoſition of the Parts of the Body. Therefore it is to be wiſhed, that all Perſons, that have had the ill luck to have been deceived by ſuch unlawful ways of Practiſing, would throughly undergo the Courſe of one of theſe two abovementioned Methods, before they marry, in order to root out of their Blood ſuch a Companion: and they will prevent by it the ill conſequence, and the confuſions that are ſeen daily in Families.

Before this Chapter is ended, it will not be thought improper to examine the Notions of ſeveral of our eminent Practitioners, who look upon the Preparations of the Patient, before the uſe of the

Mercury,

Mercury, as needleſs; and are of Opinion, that the Evacuation by Salivation, provok'd by one or two Unctions, and helped by the inward Preparations of Mercury, is ſufficient to perform a Cure. But the body not being prepared to receive the Mercury, it cannot act effectually on the *Virus*: and by conſequence, that way of Practice generally miſcarries; particularly, when the Diſtemper is fixed upon the Bones of any part of the Body; by reaſon the Mercury is already loaded by the Acids of the Aqua-fortis, the Particles of the Fire, and by other Ingredients uſed in its Preparations: Therefore being loaded with the aboveſaid ſtrange Particles, it cannot load itſelf with that of the Virus: And moreover, as the Chymical preparations open too much the ſubſtantial Body of the Mercury, it cauſes its Action to be quicker, and provokes too great an Evacuation of Spitting, before the Practitioner can give a ſufficient quantity of that Mineral: for three or four Drams ſo prepar'd and given inwardly, cauſe commonly as much Spitting, as two ounces of Ointment will by way of Unction. From theſe probable Reaſons, it may be eaſily concluded, that there is not a ſufficient quantity of Mercury given, that the little quantity has not remained in the Maſs of Blood a ſufficient Time to ſhake and break the Acids of the *Virus*, and that it cannot load itſelf with the Acids of the *Virus*, becauſe 'tis already loaden with thoſe of the aboveſaid Ingredients: And though it provokes as great an Evacuation as the Mercury given by Unctions, yet it is obſerved by experience, that that way of Practiſing commonly miſcarries, and is followed in a little Time by very bad Conſequences.

I DO not pretend, by what is here inſerted, to preſcribe rules to our Practitioners. It is only to be wiſhed, for the good of the Publick, that ſuch Practitioners

titioners would lay aſide theſe old Notions, and keep ſtrictly to ſome proper Rules: and I can aſſure them, that they would have the ſatisfaction to prevent by it the dangerous Symptoms and other ill Conſequences, that commonly attend Salivation; and in the mean time they would Cure their Patients as eaſily here, as they do at *Paris* and *Montpellier*; let it be by Salivation, or without; with this proviſo, always to give their Patients the full quantity of Mercury, and procure the conditionary Evacuations requiſite.

AFTER having explained the Nature, the Action, the Effects, the Quality, the choice of Preparations of Mercury, and the neceſſary Cautions about the Patient, before the uſe of the Remedy, during, and after it, and given a ſhort, but true Idea of the Generation and nature of the *Virus*, and ſhewn the Variety of its Symptoms in the different Climates, and repreſented the ill Conſequences of a bad Practice: It is now time to dictate our Opinion of the Method we think the beſt for a thorough Cure of a Diſtemper ſo deſtructive to Mankind.

THE Method of the Salivation by Unctions being reputed for many Years one of the beſt means, when the Practitioners have obſerved the regular Rules and other conditionary Circumſtances; yet it is attended with ſo much trouble and follow'd by ſo many dangerous Symptoms, that it has been thought proper to ſeek for ſome other ſafe and effectual means. Therefore I think it will be agreeable to acquaint the Publick, that Study and Practice have found another ſure way of Curing, and much leſs troubleſome then that of the Salivation; which is performed by the ſame quantity of Mercury allowed for the Salivation, by the way of Unctions, and by giving a proper determination to the Mercury, that

it may evacuate itſelf, and the *Virus* along with it, by Sweating and Urine, in the room of the Evacuations by Salivation. This is what I have to demonſtrate. And that I may do it with an order ſuitable to the Subject, it will not be amiſs to remove firſt the conceited Opinions of ſuch Practitioners, as have already exclaimed againſt this new Method of Curing, and endeavour to anſwer their ſeveral objections. The firſt Objection, that appeared on this Horizon, againſt Dr. *Chicanneau*, in relation to his curing forty Perſons of the Pox without Salivation, was, that none of them had the Symptoms of it; that Mr. *Palmer* an eminent Surgeon had cured one of the Patients, who miſcarried by Dr. *Chicanneau's* new Method, In Anſwer to the firſt Objection, Every body knows, that the denial of a thing, is not a proof that the thing is, or is not: Dr. *Chicanneau* is one of the worthieſt Practitioners in Phyſick throughout *France*, and incapable to advance ſuch falſhood. In Anſwer to the ſecond Objection. Tho' we ſuppoſe in the Curing forty Patients by that Method one had miſcarried, I think it is not a ſubſtantial reaſon why the Method ſhould be good for nothing; when by that of Salivation, the Practitioners here Miſcarry, at leaſt one in four. Further Dr. *Chicanneau* wrote his relation in *Latin*, and the Objection againſt it was written in *Engliſh*, a Language unknown to the ſaid Gentleman. Some years after the ſaid Objection, Dr. C——— an eminent Phyſician, and many other Practitioners beſides him, pretended to have tryed here that *Montpellier* Method; and ſaid, that it would not anſwer the intent of a Cure, becauſe of the difference of the Climate. This amounts to no more, then a Confeſſion, that they have failed in this method of Practice: for if they knew the Method as well as I do, they would not miſcarry in the Cure of their Patients, while I can prove, that I have cured

here every Patient, that has been under my care, by means of the ſaid Method; of which there is not a ſmall Number. Perhaps they will ſay, It is by hazard rather than Skill. Then it muſt be an extraordinary one, ſince I offer to produce to ſuch Honourable Perſons, and before the moſt able Phyſicians and Surgeons, a ſufficient number of Patients, that I have cured by the ſaid Method. I ſhould think it would be more creditable for thoſe Gentlemen to keep ſilence, than to boaſt of knowing that Method of Curing, whilſt they ſhew by their own Practice, that they do not ſo much as know the regular way to go on with it; as we have ſhewn already. The probability of Curing by the ſaid Method, will appear more clearly by the following remarks.

It is obſerved in the practice of Phyſick, that all epedemical Diſeaſes are for the moſt part ſurer and ſooner Cured, when the Morbifick matter diſcharges itſelf by Sweating and Urine, than by any other natural Evacuations. This Fact is ſo plain, that moſt part of the remedies preſcrib'd to the Patient by the Phyſicians, are intended to anſwer that end; and that in a ſtate of Health, the maſs of Blood purifies itſelf better, by inſenſible perſpiration, than by the other natural Excretions of the Body; and ſuch Perſons as perſpire the moſt, enjoy the beſt Health. From theſe inconteſtable reaſons it may be eaſily inferred, that ſince the epedemical Diſtempers are cured in this Climate, by the Evacuations of Sweating, the remedies preſcribed for it, are to concur to that intent; that the ſtate of Health is better preſerved in ſuch Perſons, whoſe perſpiration is more plentiful; that, when ſtopped or intercepted, the Exerciſe of the Body is ordered by the Phyſicians; and that in hot Climates the moſt ſubtile particles of the *Virus* go off naturally through the Pores of the Skin. Why

ſhould not the *Venerial* Diſtemper be as eaſily cured here by the Mercury evacuated by Sweating and Urine, which is ſo natural an Evacuation, as by the Method of a violent and dangerous Salivation? If the parties for the Salivation find their favourite Method injured by this, which they call a new Innovation, let them take Pen in Hand to vindicate their own Cauſe. I ſhould take it very kind, if I could be inſtructed by it. And, if they ſhew wherein we may be in an error, then I ſhall be very willing to ſubmit my ſelf to ſuch a juſt and reaſonable Deciſion. But if their Arguments are not grounded according to the principle and practice of Phyſick, then I ſhall do my endeavour to defend my juſt Cauſe: for I think it better to follow a Lawful way of proceeding, than that of bragging to perform new Operations, and then ſay no more of it. And for the better ſupport of the certainty of my Method, I have performed ſeveral Cures here by it, in the preſence of Eminent Phyſicians; ſome others before Surgeons of note; as it will appear, when opportunity requires it. It has lately been objected, that there has not been a ſufficient time, ſince theſe Experiments have been made before the Phyſicians, to judge of the thorough Cure of the Patients; that a Relapſe may appear again two or three Years after the uſe of ſuch Method, as well as it does by the Salivation. In anſwer to that Objection, I agree that Symptoms may appear, ten, fifteen, twenty, and thirty Years after the firſt Infection, as the famous Monſieur *Petit* Surgeon at *Paris* has obſerved, as well as many other credible Practitioners; but ſeldom ſo late as three Years, after the uſe of the full quantity of Mercury by Unctions; becauſe its globulous Particles having broke the Acids of the *Virus*, by its repeated Motions in the Maſs of the Blood, and been loaded with it, If the Evacuations have not carried both off in a due Time,

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the freſh Symptomps appear very ſoon. But I can produce two particular relations, as a Teſtimony of the undoubted Cure by my Method, which I hope will be a ſufficient Anſwer to that Objection.

The firſt Cure performed is fifteen Years ago, on the Daughter of Mr. *Fletcher* a Waterman at *Richmond*; who, a Year after a ſtrong Salivation, had ſuch a pain in her Head, that ſhe could get no reſt; and the half of the left ſide of her Jaw-bone was rotten. She was cured by my Method in ſix Weeks. I have the pieces of her Jaw to produce. She is to be ſeen at *Richmond*, by the Name of *Burgeſs*: her Husband is a Shoe-maker.

The ſecond is a Cure performed by the ſame Method about ten Years ago, on a Servant belonging to his Grace the late Duke of *Devonſhire*. His Caſe was ſo bad, that his Grace's Phyſician, together with Mr. *Aymé* Surgeon, agreed, that the Diſtemper was too far gone, and the Patient too Weak to ſupport the proper remedy for his Cure. The Symptoms were as follows. The Patient could get no reſt, either Night or Day, for ſome Months: he vomited whatever he Eat or Drank: he ſpitt out a Matterous Blood: he had an Exoſtoſæ on the ſhin Bone of one of his Legs, a Caries or rottenneſs in the bone of his Noſe; and withal ſo weak, that with much ado could he ſtir from his Bed. I was two Months and a half before I could compleat his Cure without Salivation. I can produce the pieces, that came from his Noſe by Exfoliation; and he has been Married about ſix Years ſince; has two Children in good Health, as well as himſelf and the reſt of his Family. The teſtimony of this Fact can be juſtified by the preſent Duke's Servants; in particular, by Mr. *Huet* his Grace's Steward, Mr. *Darington*, Gentleman of the Horſe

Horſe to the late Duke, and by the Patient himſelf; as well as by Mr. *Burnefields*, the late Duke's Apothecary, where any one may be ſatisfied of the ſeveral preſcriptions from his Phyſician, for the uſe of the aboveſaid Patient. I could produce a great many other Perſons, that have been cured by the ſaid Method. But as it is a Diſtemper, that requires privacy, I cannot tell the Names, but of ſuch as I have leave to make uſe of. In the mean time, theſe are the moſt inconteſtible proofs for a perfect Cure, that can be given in Phyſick; and by conſequence will be a ſufficient Anſwer to the aboveſaid Objection. Let us now ſee the Advantage, that this Method has over that of Salivation, by which we will end this ſmall Diſſertation.

Firſt, Such Perſons, whoſe Cure has miſcarried by Salivation, will be ſurely cured by this Method.

Secondly, Such as are ſo Weak, that they cannot undergo the Salivation, will find Relief and Cure by the ſaid Method.

Thirdly, Such as cannot bear the Thoughts of a painful and dangerous Salivation, will be cured with very little Trouble.

Fourthly, There are no dangerous Symptoms during the Confinement, in the taking the Remedies, nor after the Cure: But there are a great many, that attend that of a Salivation.

Fifthly, The Patient can converſe with his Friends without any danger or conſtraint, and paſs his time much more agreeably, than he can do in a Salivation.

Laſtly,

Laſtly, The Time for the Cure, is much about the Same as is allowed by the Way of Salivation by Unction.

The firſt Experiment, that I ſaw performed by this Method, was on a Patient about two and twenty Years ago at *Montpellier*, by Doctors *Chicanneau*, *Didier* and *Vergnie*, eminent Phyſicians; and by Meſſieurs *Laperonnie*, *Gondange* and *Pairas*, Surgeons. And I had ſo good an Opinion of it, that I have applyed myſelf ever ſince to carry it on to a better Degree of Perfection, as might be anſwerable to the Degree of the Diſtemper, and the Nature of the Climate. But the Additions of modification and determination of the Remedy have been ſo expenſive, before I could arrive to it, that if I only regarded temporal Profit, I have hitherto had Reaſon to wiſh, that I had never had any thought about it. For being a Foreigner, and having had as yet but little opportunity to be known amongſt the Quality and Gentry; and the Perſons I have cured, ſome of them having no Credit to be able to recommend one, others being afraid to loſe there Places, if their Maſters come to know their Caſe, has been the Occaſion, that I have hitherto had litttle Encouragement. Recommendation therefore is yet wanting from ſome Perſons of Diſtinction, and Gentlemen of Credit, for propogating this Method. And I hope, that in particular Sir *Hans Sloane*, Dr. *Hollings*, and Dr. *Stuart*, will do me that Juſtice; in the Preſence of whom I made the Experiment laſt Summer of two Cures performed by the ſaid Method, on two Patients, who are willing to appear before them again when required; to convince them that the Cure is perfected. Moreover, the great Opinion I have of the aboveſaid Gentlemen, gives no Room to doubt, that when they meet an opportunity, they will encourage ſuch a good

good Method by their recommendation, and thereby they will ſave to ſome Patients the additional Charges of going on Purpoſe to *Montpellier*, to be cured by the ſaid Method, after they have miſcarried of a Cure here, by repeated Salivations, or ſome other famed Specifick.

As I have obſerved ſeveral times: and in particular laſt Summer, in the Caſe of a Gentleman of Note, which, by the Relation I had from his Brother, and that of Dr. *Broxholm*, an eminent Phyſician, is as follows. The Patient had been Salivated twice by one eminent Surgeon in *London*; and the Cure each Time miſcarried, in ſuch Manner, that Part of his Skull was carious or rotten, as well as Part of his lower Jaw Bone, beſides other Symptoms on ſeveral Parts of his Body. But the ſaid Patient having then return'd Bills to *Paris*, with a deſign to go to *Montpellier*, to be cured there by the ſaid Method, before he could hear any Thing of me, was the Reaſon he did not put himſelf under my Care, and I here juſt know by a Friend of his, that he is in a fair Way of recovery.

And to End this ſhort *Analytical Inquiry*, we can aſſure the Readers, that I ſhall always do my endeavour to Anſwer the Recommendation, they ſhall be pleaſed to favour me with, to the Satisfaction of the Patient. And for the Conveniency of ſuch Perſons, as would be willing to Lodge in my Houſe, I keep always Five or ſix Rooms furniſhed, beſide bathing and ſweating Places for that Purpoſe, and good Nurſes, if required.

Such Perſons, as have the Misfortune to be troubled with the King's Evil, and that are willing to know where to get Relief and Cure, may only ſend or write by the Penny Poſt, and they will be attended

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at their Lodgings without any Charges; when they may be acquainted of ſome of my creditable Patients, with the Nature of their Caſe, before they were cured and by my Means, which, thank God, have proved to be generally effectual; unleſs when the cauſe of the Illneſs doth proceed from Generation to Generation of the Parents. As to the Poor, if they think well to come to my Houſe, before nine of the Clock in the Morning, they ſhall have the outward Applications *Gratis*; by which, with the help of inward Remedies, that I am willing to preſcribe to them, which they may purchaſe at the *Chymiſts*, they may find Relief and Cure as well as the Rich.

Being intreated by ſeveral eminent Phyſicians to inſert a Liſt of ſuch Cures of *Veneral Diſeaſes*, as I have perform'd here by the aboveſaid Method, as well as the Numbers of Patients, that I have cured of the *King's Evil* in this City, ſo as to ſerve for a further Conviction of a good and ſucceſsfull Practice, they are as follows, *viz.*

The firſt Year of my coming to *London*, I was recommended to *H*—— *D*—— Eſq; who, having a Defect in his Speech, with ſeveral deep Ulcers in his Mouth and on his Tongue, occaſion'd by the Miſapplication of Mercury, his Surgeon having left him as incurable, he deſir'd, I would uſe my endeavour in order for a Cure; which accordingly I did; and he was cured by my Means in three Weeks, without Confinement. Being afterwards ſent Abroad by his late Majeſty for ſome Years, he was deſirous, I would go with him: But, as I choſe rather to continue here in the Practice of Surgery, he therefore declared, he would never recommend me or make my Method known. He hath been married now upwards of ſeventeen Years; and hath Children, who all enjoy their perfect Health.

About the ſame Time a *Vintner*, near *Leiceſter-ſquare*, had a Shanker on his Yard, and two Bubos on his Groin, which were repelled into the Body by Miſapplication of Remedies; and in few Weeks after was grieviouſly troubled with nocturnal Pains all over his Body: but by Means of the ſaid Method he was cured in five Weeks, without Confinement. He has been married theſe fourteen Years, and has had ſeveral Children, who enjoy perfect Health.

Seventeen Years ago, a Valet de Chambre of the late Duke of *Richmond*, was adviſed by Mr. *Rongat*, Surgeon to the late King *William*, and by Monſieur *Buſiere*, to be Salivated; but, not being willing to undergo it, was cured by me, without confinement, by means of the ſaid Method.

At the ſame time, a Child, about ſix Years of Age, belonging to a Ribbon Weaver in *Petticoat-Lane*, *Spittle-Fields*, who had ſeven Ulcers on her Leg, three on the top of her Foot, the Matter or Pus went through the Foot, I cured in three Months. The cauſe was a ſcrophulous Humour. She has been well ever ſince.

Beſides thoſe already mentioned, about twelve Years ſince, one of the Coachmen to his Grace the late Duke of *Devonſhire*, who had a hard ſwelling on the boney part of the inſide of his Noſe, with nocturnal Pains in his Head, being a relapſe of a Shanker, was cured by the ſaid Method in one Month, and only two weeks Confinement.

About four Years after, a Poſtillon of the ſaid Duke's had ſome night Pains all over his Body, that he could get no reſt for near two Months; then ap-

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pear'd in his Groin a Bubo or hard ſwelling; which, being brought to good ſuppuration and kept open ſix Weeks, was afterwards cured by the uſe of the ſaid Method, without Confinement. He is ſince Married-and all his Family enjoy a perfect Health. He now followeth publick Buſines near St. *James's Market*.

About the ſame Time, a Cook at a Tavern in *Suffolk-ſtreet*, nine Months after a bad Cure of a Gonorhea by the Way of Injections, had his Body full of large Blotches and Scurfe, and was alſo cured by the ſaid Method, in five Weeks, without Confinement.

About nine Years ſince, a Peruke-Maker in *Bow-ſtreet* had ſome Ulcers in his Throat, violent Pains in his Head, and on his Yard ſeveral pocky Warts, who was cured by the ſaid Method in four Weeks, and confined all the Time in the Preſence of A young Phyſician, who was juſt come over from *Montpellier*, was Witneſs to this Cure.

In the ſame Year *Francis Detree*, a Servant belonging to the late Reverend Dr. *Burnet*, then Chaplain to his late Majeſty King *George*, had had during two Years a great or continual Pain on the Sole of his Foot, which at laſt broke into an Impoſthume, the Bone of one of the Falanges being carious or rotten; when he was adviſed by Dr. *Engliſh*, Mr. *Buſſiere* and Mr. *Browne*, Surgeons, to have his Leg cut of: but the Patient could not be prevailed with; ſo that two Months after he was perſuaded to go into St. *Thomas's* Hoſpital: but finding his Leg was to be cut off, he made his Eſcape from thence; when being recommended to me, with ſome Difficulty I ſaved his Leg, and performed the Cure in eighteen Months: After which Time he walked from hence to *Switzer-*

land, and returned four Years afterwards; the Cauſe of his Diſeaſe was a violent ſcrophulous Humour, with a Complication of Maladies. I have ſeveral Pieces of the Bone to produce. And *David Mitchel*, Eſq; Brother-in-Law to the above mention'd Dr. *Burnet*, can teſtify the Truth of this Fact. As alſo Dr. *De Roſſet*, Phyſician to the *French* Hoſpital.

About nine Years ſince, a French Captain, belonging to the Regiment of the late Colonel *Labouſſetiere*, had a Fiſtula in the bottom of his Yard, (through which his Water paſſed,) with a hard ſubſtantial fleſhy Body, the bigneſs of two large Eggs: the Chanel of the Yard or Ureter was ſtopped in three different Places; which ſo much obſtructed the Paſſage, that it was difficult to put a waxCandle or any thing of the bigneſs of a pinsHead into it. AConſultation of four eminent Surgeons was held in his Lodgings, at the *Grey-hound* Coffee-houſe in *Compton-ſtreet*; who found no Ways or Means to relieve the Patient. I was ſent for; and, after eight Months Attendance, cauſed him to make Water freely by the natural Way; and ſo well recovered him, that he ſet out for the Country, where he had ſeveral Children. His Caſe proceeded from an ill uſe of Mercury given inwardly by a Pretender. Mr. *Verdier*, a Cook to her preſent Majeſty, being his Landlord, can juſtify further this Fact.

About the ſame Time, a Gentleman belonging to his Grace the Duke of Queensbury, for near nine Years was troubled with ſeveral hard ſores in his Groins, and particularly on the Bone Pubis, down to the Scrotum. He had been in foreign Countries under the Care of ſeveral noted Surgeons, and likewiſe here under Monſ. *Buſiere* for ſome Time; but he being Scrophulous was judged Incurable: Yet by my conſtant Application and inward Remedies he was

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cured in ſeven Weeks. He has been married ſeveral Years, and has continued well ever ſince: And further, he is willing to appear before any diſcreet Phyſician to juſtify what I ſay of him.

About the ſame time, a Child of fourteen Years of Age, belonging to a *Shoe-maker* near *Cranburn-Alley*, who had a Scrophulous tumour in the glands of his neck, was cured of it by a ſuppuration and other inward remedies in Two months; and has never had any relapſe ſince.

At the ſame time, I had a Child, a relation to the above mentioned, under my care, ſeveral months. The bone of one of his Fingers being Carious was Cured: but as the Scrophulous humour or King's-Evil proceeded from his Parents for ſeveral former Generations, the humour broke out again in the ancle of his foot; and his Father carrying him afterwards to *Hambourg*, I know not what is become of him.

About eight Years ſince, a Gentleman belonging to the Lord *Walpole*, who had been troubled with ſeveral running Ulcers in the neck of his Yarde for many Years, and, after ſeveral Conſultations and Experiments made by ſome of the moſt eminent Surgeons, continued ſtill Spring and Fall of the Leafe to break out. He was at laſt cured by my Means in five Weeks, without Confinement, and has been well ever ſince: His Caſe was a Complication of Diſtempers; as *Virus* and *Scorbutick* Humours.

About three Years ſince, the Brother of the Earl of *S* —— came from the Country, with a great hard Swelling in one of his Teſticles, occaſion'd by the ill management of a Clap, falling on that Part. I attended him four times at *Highgate*; and he was

cured

cured in four Weeks by my Means: After which he ſet out for *Paris*, and returned in twelve Months ſafe and well.

AUGUST laſt was two Years, the Son of a Silk Merchant in *Devonſhire-ſquare*, after a virulent Gonorrhea and Chanker, being patched up by a Pretender, had loſt the Uſe of his right Hand, and for near four Months he had Nodes in moſt parts of the Joynts of his Hand and Fingers. He was attended, during ſix Weeks, by a very noted Surgeon, his Relation; who, finding that his Care did not anſwer his expectation, left the Patient. He after that applyed himſelf to Dr. *Turner* and *Plumbtree*, two very noted Phyſicians, as alſo to Mr. *Ferne* an extraordinary good Surgeon. They were all of Opinion, to put the Patient under a regular Salivation, as the only certain Way to cure him; But the Patient, unwilling to undergo ſo troubleſome a Confinement, came to me; and I in five Weeks ſo well recovered him by my Method, that he could keep his Fathers Books. And the ſaid Mr. *Ferne* did me the favour to come to ſee him, when almoſt cured; and declared, that he was very glad to ſee him in ſo good a Way of Recovery.

IN *July* 1730, the Son of *L——— D———* Eſq; came to me, after the ill Cure of a Shanker, *&c.* at *Cambridge*. He had Ulcers in his Mouth; and the Neck of his Yarde was ſo full of pocky Warts, that one could not diſtinguiſh the Preputium from the Gland. Some were as big as Figs, ſome as Spaniſh Nuts, ſome as Beans, ſome as Peas, with ſuch offenſive ſmells, that he could ſcarce bear them himſelf. He was four Weeks with me, before I could root off all that fleſhy Subſtance, and four more under the Confinement of my Method, to carry off the inward Cauſe.

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Then being perfectly cured, he went out of my Houſe: But his hard hearted Father came accidentally to know it ſix Months after the Cure, and for Puniſhment allowed him but Six-pence per Day; and by degrees cauſed him to ſtarve and die For the poor young Gentleman, having been well uſed in the College, where he was brought up, meeting with ſuch hard Uſage from a rich gouty Father, it broke his Heart. Seeing the ſaid Gentleman was ſo barbarouſly uſed, I offered him my own Table, as long as his Father ſhould live, and uſe him ſo: But his generous Heart gave me for anſwer, that he was afraid, I ſhould be too great a looſer, being at all the Charges for his Cure, beſide ſome ready Money he had of me; which I can make appear by Note of his Hand, ſigned before credible Witneſſes: Moreover after the young Man's leaving my Houſe, I kindly contributed towards his Maintainance: And if his Father doth not think proper to pay me, I ſhall have the Satisfaction to expoſe his Name and leave him to be handled by the Scholars of *Cambridge*.

As to the two Cures performed laſt Summer before the above-named Phyſicians, the one is a Gentleman belonging to the Opera-Houſe: Upon whom Dr. *Hollings* ſaw the Symptoms; which were Ulcers in the Mouth, and the Inſide of the Noſe was full of Ulcers, dryed Scabs and Warts. Sir *Hans Sloane* has view'd him after the Cure.

The other was a Gentlewoman of Fifty Years of Age, at *Charing-Croſs*; who being married ſome Years to a young Man of Twenty, there appeared a few Years after a vaſt deal of running from her Womb, with a nauſcous Smell. Mr. *Coldom*, a noted Surgeon, being ſent for, adviſed the Husband to have his Wife Salivated. Three or four Days after,

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her ſaid Husband ſent for me. When I came to viſit the Patient, I found a falling out of her Womb and ſeveral running Ulcers upon it. After four Weeks Confinement, ſhe was cured by the new Method; and ſhe is the ſame Perſon, that Dr. *Stuart* view'd in my Houſe. And upon occaſion ſhe is willing to appear before the ſaid Gentleman.

THE later End of *December* laſt, I had a Gentleman, whoſe Father is a Perſon of Note, who had a large Ulcer in his Throat, with a great Hoarſeneſs, occaſion'd by the bad Cure of a Clap. Mr. *Wilkie*, a Surgeon ſaw his Caſe, with many other Gentlemen, at the Duke of *Lorain's Head* Tavern, in *Suffolk-ſtreet*; in particular Monſ. *Le Comte de Marini*. He was cured in four Weeks, by the ſaid Method; in which there were twelve Days of Confinement.

THOSE Patients I have cured by a regular Salivation are many more in Number: As for Claps, Shankers, Bubos, Phimoſis, and Paraphimoſis, it would be too tedious to deſcribe them here; as alſo to explain all the particular Circumſtances, that attended every ſingle Patient above-mentioned. And it would be beyond the Bounds I propoſed my ſelf; ſince they will be included at large in the Obſervations of my Practice hereafter, according to Promiſe, inſerted in the Preface of this ſhort Eſſay.

FINIS.

POSTSCRIPT.

POSTSCRIPT.

WHILE the above Sheets were printing, I happened to see a Dissertation on the Pox, occasion'd, as the Author pretends, by a Letter from a Physician in *London*, Signed *R. Brown*; where the said Author is pleased to call the new Method of curing that Distemper *Fiction* and *Error*.

I should not think it worth my while to take notice of it, had not the Author of that Scandal falsely accused Dr. *Chicanneau*, as the Reviver of old Frictions, without the Distinction due to his Candour, and his extraordinary good Character, so well known almost throughout the World, as a wise, skillful and charitable Physician. Instead of doing him Justice, he has represented him as an old doating Woman: I can assure that Author, that if the old Women could revive or invent such good Practice in the other Branches of Physick, as Dr. *Chicanneau* has by this new Method, I should be very willing to follow their Steps. He sets forth, that Dr. *Chicanneau* cannot be quoted the Inventor of this new Method, since Frictions or Unctions of Mercury were in Use in former Ages. Then he should have said, *To Cure the Itch*;

and not have confounded ſuch Frictions or Unctions, with thoſe which are applyed for the Uſe of Salivation, and are particularly put in a proper Method above theſe threeſcore Years, and followed by the beſt Practitioners in *Europe*, for the Cure of a confirmed Pox: and have been made Uſe of, in the new Method of curing without Salivation, twenty-two Years ago, when I was at *Montpellier*, and had the Satisfaction to ſee the good Succeſs of both Methods, by the Adminiſtration of Dr. *Chicanneau*, together with ſome other afore-named Phyſicians and Surgeons.

But every ſenſible Man may eaſily imagine, how many Patients have loſt their Lives, and others been crippled by it, before the Practitioners could find the Perfection of the Method of Salivation; ſince to this Day there are ſo many, that miſcarry by it in this City of London, and many more by the pretended Specifics, as I have already aſſerted: therefore think it uſeleſs to repeat here the Reaſons.

And, as we ſeldom hear of Miſcarrying by the Uſe of this new Method, muſt the Author be ſurpriſed, if Dr. *Chicanneau* or other Practitioners, who really know the Method, with the Ways and Means how to manage, give it the Preference to that of Salivation? It is becauſe they have found by experience, that it anſwereth better the intended Cure, than a Salivation doth, without putting the Patient in any Danger. But theſe Modifications or Conditions were ſuch as the Author calls curious Points. I could tell him, that they can never be obtained by the Rhetorick of ſcribing Criticks, and preſcribing Syſtems and Rules of Practice to others. But by ſeeing and following the Practitioners themſelves, in the Cure of their Patients, with a due Application to obſerve all the

the Circumſtances required, according to the Caſe and Nature of the Diſeaſe, during a ſufficient Time: as we can make it appear by good Teſtimonies, we have done it, during ſeven Years at *Montpellier* and *Paris*; and about eighteen in our regular Practice in *London*. And I proteſt, that by following their Rules and employing the ſame Remedies, which I have prepared my ſelf, I have cured my Patients here, as well and as eaſily as the Practitioners do in the aboveſaid Places, either by Salivation or without Salivation, as I have already ſhewn by Facts and credible Teſtimonies.

It ſeems by the Pains the Author takes, that the Multitude of his Patients do not hinder him from exerciſing his Pen againſt Perſons, that are entirely Strangers to him, nor exclaming againſt a Method, that he is not only unacquainted with the Nature of, but much more the Management of it.

Doubtleſs ſuch Practitioners, as have the Perfection of both, reſerve them to themſelves; knowing, that it is ſufficient on all occaſions, to ſhew their experiments before proper Judges, (Phyſicians) and to leave the Applauſe of the Cure to the Patient, as Juſtice and Reaſon require.

Moreover he pretends to ſet Rules of Practice to others, whilſt he makes it appear, that he knows not the true Method to Cure a confirmed Pox.

He ſtruggles by much Rhetorick, to convince himſelf, that he gives his Readers a full Diſſertation of a confirmed Pox; and a long Aſſeveration for the Cure, according to his Notion; namely by the uſe of inward Chymical Preparation of Mercury; whilſt they were imputed to be inſufficient Means, by the

moſt credible Practitioners in *London*, as well as in all other Parts of *Europe*.

As for the Support of his Practice, when he affirmeth, that he hath effectually cured ſome numbers of Patients by his Specifics, and ſome others by Salivation, provoked by the inward Uſe of Mercury; who knows that they are not ſuppoſed Symptoms, and by Conſequence ſuppoſed Cures. He ſhould have called ſome able Phyſician or Surgeon, to have been eye Witneſſes of the Symptoms, that had caracterized the Pox in each Patient; and produced them after the Cure to ſuch Phyſician or Surgeon, if required. For Perſons in this Age are ſo corrupted, and others ſo neglectful; that it cauſed the ingenious Mr. *Petit*, Surgeon at *Paris*, to ſay (very a propos) that Perſons who talk and argue the moſt, are commonly the leaſt Skill'd in the Practice of Surgery.

But who knows, but the Author gets more Money by ſelling his Books, then he would do by the Practice of Phyſick? If it is ſo, than I muſt ask his Pardon. For every Man ought to live by his Labour; eſpecially in ſo populous a City, where the Freedom of the Preſs is allowed ſo openly: Witneſs the Numbers of Specifics, ſo much famed in our News Papers.

The Author complains, that ſome Innovators have rejected entirely the Uſe of inward Preparations of Mercury, as dangerous, and inſufficient for the Cure of Veneral Diſeaſes. I do not pretend to excuſe or blame their opinions. But it appears to me, that they are in as great an Error, as the other Party, that give an Extent to the Uſe of Mercury beyond its bounds; particularly, ſuch as take upon them to ſet Rules for others, and ſay not much more than A. B. C.

POSTSCRIPT.

IT is known by the regular Practitioner, that the Uſe of *Mercurius dulcis*, *Calamel* and *Pamacæ Mercurialis*, faithfully prepared, has proved to be an excellent Remedy, to carry off the Malignity and Virulence in a Gonorrhea, Shankers, Bubo, Phimoſis, Paraphimoſis, Scabs, *&c.* and ſometimes the outward Symptoms of a Pox: I could produce five hundred Experiments of Cures performed by it: But to give that Extent, in pretending that the inward Uſe of Mercury is more powerful than the Mercury by Unction, is what I abſolutely deny, upon ſolid Reaſons, and Demonſtrations of Facts, as I have already ſhewn in the foregoing Sheets.

BUT to give a further ſatisfactory Anſwer to the Author, why the inward Uſe of Mercury is inſufficient for the Cure of a confirmed Pox, it will not be from the Purpoſe to examine the Action, which the Author appointed to the Mercury. It Acts, ſays he, by the Heavineſs of its Body, and by the Pore of its Particles. If the Mercury taken inwardly did Act only by the Weight of its Body, and by the round Figure of its Pore, it ſhould always follow, that the Precipitation of its Subſtance would paſs through the inferiour Part of the Body by its own Weight; and therefore no Particles could paſs into the Blood, to Cauſe *Spitting*, *Sweating*, *or Urine*; but all by Stool, which is contrary to daily Experience; which ſhews, that its repeated Uſe cauſes all the aboveſaid Evacuations, when well prepared and skilfully managed. And if the Author had added the *Volatility*, as a Property to the globulous Particles of the Mercury, which by the *Intermedium* of the Heat of the Body, and by the Application of the Acids of the *Virus* into the Pores of its ſaid globulous Particles, which it receives in the *Veſſels*, by its ſeveral repeated Motions

tions in the Blood, and after is loaded with, and is precipitated by its own Weight, by the Evacuations before-mention'd; then I would own, that he was right, and he could more probably explain the common Symptoms and Phænomena, that attend its Uſe by Salivation. But, in the mean Time, it would confuſe the inward Uſe of Mercury; and make it ſeem as inſufficient to cure a confirmed Pox.

As to the Fever and other various Symptoms, that commonly attend a Salivation, imputed by the Author, to be the Effect of the Weight of leſs than ſix Drams of Quick-ſilver, I appeal to the Sentiments of the beſt Practitioners, if it is not more probable, that all the ſaid Symptoms proceed from the Fermentation of the Acids, when engaged in the Pores of the Particles of the Mercury; *than by the Load of ſix Drams or leſs of Quick-ſilver, in the Veſſels ſuſpended by the perpetual Motion of the Blood:* As our Author is pleaſed to expreſs himſelf.

And what confirms that Opinion the moſt, is, that, if the Mercury doth not ſtay a reaſonable Time in the Blood, it cauſeth an evacuation without performing the Intended Cure.

Because, when it doth not remain a ſufficient Time in the Maſs of the Blood, to ſhake, break, and load itſelf with the Acids of the *Virus*; it is remarkable, that ſuch ſort of Evacuation is of little or no Uſe for the Cure of the Patient.

It is further obſervable in Practice, that in the inward uſe of Chymical Preparations of Mercury, for the Cure of the Pox, a leſſer Quantity cauſeth quicker Evacuations, than double the Quantity will of that that is applyed by Way of Unction; for Reaſons following. Firſt,

First, The Substance of its Particles were exceeding open by the Action of the Fire.

Secondly, Its Pores were loaded by the Acids of Aqua Fortis, or other Ingredients of its Preparations.

Lastly, Its specific Quality is very much altered in all kind of Chymical Preparations. Therefore: Its Particles being more open by the Action of the Fire, its Operation can be but the Quicker; and being loaded with the Acids of the Aqua Fortis, it cannot load itself with that of the *Virus*; its specifick Quality being altered, it has neither the Time nor Strength to introduce itself into the afflicted Part of the Bones, where the *Virus* is fixed. Moreover, one cannot give the Quantity requisite for such a Cure, because its Evacuations of Spitting come on the Patient too fast. Therefore I hope, this Author will have but little Room to say against us, that I have given no Reasons for the Preference of the Unction for the Cure of an inveterate Pox, before the Use of Chymical Preparations taken inwardly. As to Fact, I can produce many more instances, than I have advanced, to convince the Author, that he has settled the Argument of his principal Practice on the Sands. For all judicious Practitioners have observed in their Practice the reality of that Truth; that Frictions or Unctions were to be preferred, in any confirmed Pox; and that a *Method* of curing surely the Patient, without Danger of their Person or Relapse, ought to be preferred before any other.

FINIS.